

- Sec.
PART A—REPOSITORIES FOR DISPOSAL OF HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE AND SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL
- 10131. Findings and purposes.
 - 10132. Recommendation of candidate sites for site characterization.
 - 10133. Site characterization.
 - 10134. Site approval and construction authorization.
 - 10135. Review of repository site selection.
 - 10136. Participation of States.
 - 10137. Consultation with States and affected Indian tribes.
 - 10138. Participation of Indian tribes.
 - 10139. Judicial review of agency actions.
 - 10140. Expedited authorizations.
 - 10141. Certain standards and criteria.
 - 10142. Disposal of spent nuclear fuel.
 - 10143. Title to material.
 - 10144. Consideration of effect of acquisition of water rights.
 - 10145. Termination of certain provisions.
- PART B—INTERIM STORAGE PROGRAM
- 10151. Findings and purposes.
 - 10152. Available capacity for interim storage of spent nuclear fuel.
 - 10153. Interim at-reactor storage.
 - 10154. Licensing of facility expansions and shipments.
 - 10155. Storage of spent nuclear fuel.
 - 10156. Interim Storage Fund.
 - 10157. Transportation.
- PART C—MONITORED RETRIEVABLE STORAGE
- 10161. Monitored retrievable storage.
 - 10162. Authorization of monitored retrievable storage.
 - 10163. Monitored Retrievable Storage Commission.
 - 10164. Survey.
 - 10165. Site selection.
 - 10166. Notice of disapproval.
 - 10167. Benefits agreement.
 - 10168. Construction authorization.
 - 10169. Financial assistance.
- PART D—LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE
- 10171. Financial arrangements for low-level radioactive waste site closure.
- PART E—REDIRECTION OF NUCLEAR WASTE PROGRAM
- 10172. Selection of Yucca Mountain site.
 - 10172a. Siting a second repository.
- PART F—BENEFITS
- 10173. Benefits agreements.
 - 10173a. Content of agreements.
 - 10173b. Review Panel.
 - 10173c. Termination.
- PART G—OTHER BENEFITS
- 10174. Consideration in siting facilities.
 - 10174a. Report.
- PART H—TRANSPORTATION
- 10175. Transportation.
- SUBCHAPTER II—RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION REGARDING DISPOSAL OF HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE AND SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL
- 10191. Purpose.
 - 10192. Applicability.
 - 10193. Identification of sites.
 - 10194. Siting research and related activities.
 - 10195. Test and evaluation facility siting review and reports.
 - 10196. Federal agency actions.
 - 10197. Research and development on disposal of high-level radioactive waste.

- Sec.
10198. Research and development on spent nuclear fuel.
- 10199. Payments to States and Indian tribes.
 - 10200. Study of research and development needs for monitored retrievable storage proposal.
 - 10201. Judicial review.
 - 10202. Research on alternatives for permanent disposal of high-level radioactive waste.
 - 10203. Technical assistance to non-nuclear weapon states in field of spent fuel storage and disposal.
 - 10204. Subseabed disposal.
- SUBCHAPTER III—OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO RADIOACTIVE WASTE
- 10221. Mission plan.
 - 10222. Nuclear Waste Fund.
 - 10223. Alternative means of financing.
 - 10224. Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management.
 - 10225. Location of test and evaluation facility.
 - 10226. Nuclear Regulatory Commission training authorization.
- SUBCHAPTER IV—NUCLEAR WASTE NEGOTIATOR
- 10241. "State" defined.
 - 10242. Office of Nuclear Waste Negotiator.
 - 10243. Duties of Negotiator.
 - 10244. Environmental assessment of sites.
 - 10245. Site characterization; licensing.
 - 10246. Monitored retrievable storage.
 - 10247. Environmental impact statement.
 - 10248. Administrative powers of Negotiator.
 - 10249. Cooperation of other departments and agencies.
 - 10250. Termination of Office.
 - 10251. Authorization of appropriations.
- SUBCHAPTER V—NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD
- 10261. Definitions.
 - 10262. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.
 - 10263. Functions.
 - 10264. Investigatory powers.
 - 10265. Compensation of members.
 - 10266. Staff.
 - 10267. Support services.
 - 10268. Report.
 - 10269. Authorization of appropriations.
 - 10270. Termination of Board.

§ 10101. Definitions

For purposes of this chapter:

(1) The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) The term "affected Indian tribe" means any Indian tribe—

(A) within whose reservation boundaries a monitored retrievable storage facility, test and evaluation facility, or a repository for high-level radioactive waste or spent fuel is proposed to be located;

(B) whose federally defined possessory or usage rights to other lands outside of the reservation's boundaries arising out of congressionally ratified treaties may be substantially and adversely affected by the locating of such a facility: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Interior finds, upon the petition of the appropriate governmental officials of the tribe, that such effects are both substantial and adverse to the tribe;¹

¹ So in original. The semicolon probably should be a period.

(3) The term “atomic energy defense activity” means any activity of the Secretary performed in whole or in part in carrying out any of the following functions:

- (A) naval reactors development;
- (B) weapons activities including defense inertial confinement fusion;
- (C) verification and control technology;
- (D) defense nuclear materials production;
- (E) defense nuclear waste and materials by-products management;
- (F) defense nuclear materials security and safeguards and security investigations; and
- (G) defense research and development.

(4) The term “candidate site” means an area, within a geologic and hydrologic system, that is recommended by the Secretary under section 10132 of this title for site characterization, approved by the President under section 10132 of this title for site characterization, or undergoing site characterization under section 10133 of this title.

(5) The term “civilian nuclear activity” means any atomic energy activity other than an atomic energy defense activity.

(6) The term “civilian nuclear power reactor” means a civilian nuclear powerplant required to be licensed under section 2133 or 2134(b) of this title.

(7) The term “Commission” means the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

(8) The term “Department” means the Department of Energy.

(9) The term “disposal” means the emplacement in a repository of high-level radioactive waste, spent nuclear fuel, or other highly radioactive material with no foreseeable intent of recovery, whether or not such emplacement permits the recovery of such waste.

(10) The terms “disposal package” and “package” mean the primary container that holds, and is in contact with, solidified high-level radioactive waste, spent nuclear fuel, or other radioactive materials, and any overpacks that are emplaced at a repository.

(11) The term “engineered barriers” means manmade components of a disposal system designed to prevent the release of radionuclides into the geologic medium involved. Such term includes the high-level radioactive waste form, high-level radioactive waste canisters, and other materials placed over and around such canisters.

(12) The term “high-level radioactive waste” means—

(A) the highly radioactive material resulting from the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel, including liquid waste produced directly in reprocessing and any solid material derived from such liquid waste that contains fission products in sufficient concentrations; and

(B) other highly radioactive material that the Commission, consistent with existing law, determines by rule requires permanent isolation.

(13) The term “Federal agency” means any Executive agency, as defined in section 105 of title 5.

(14) The term “Governor” means the chief executive officer of a State.

(15) The term “Indian tribe” means any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community of Indians recognized as eligible for the services provided to Indians by the Secretary of the Interior because of their status as Indians, including any Alaska Native village, as defined in section 3(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602(c)).

(16) The term “low-level radioactive waste” means radioactive material that—

(A) is not high-level radioactive waste, spent nuclear fuel, transuranic waste, or by-product material as defined in section 2014(e)(2) of this title; and

(B) the Commission, consistent with existing law, classifies as low-level radioactive waste.

(17) The term “Office” means the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management established in section 10224² of this title.

(18) The term “repository” means any system licensed by the Commission that is intended to be used for, or may be used for, the permanent deep geologic disposal of high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel, whether or not such system is designed to permit the recovery, for a limited period during initial operation, of any materials placed in such system. Such term includes both surface and subsurface areas at which high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel handling activities are conducted.

(19) The term “reservation” means—

(A) any Indian reservation or dependent Indian community referred to in clause (a) or (b) of section 1151 of title 18; or

(B) any land selected by an Alaska Native village or regional corporation under the provisions of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).

(20) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Energy.

(21) The term “site characterization” means—

(A) siting research activities with respect to a test and evaluation facility at a candidate site; and

(B) activities, whether in the laboratory or in the field, undertaken to establish the geologic condition and the ranges of the parameters of a candidate site relevant to the location of a repository, including borings, surface excavations, excavations of exploratory shafts, limited subsurface lateral excavations and borings, and in situ testing needed to evaluate the suitability of a candidate site for the location of a repository, but not including preliminary borings and geophysical testing needed to assess whether site characterization should be undertaken.

(22) The term “siting research” means activities, including borings, surface excavations, shaft excavations, subsurface lateral excavations and borings, and in situ testing, to determine the suitability of a site for a test and evaluation facility.

(23) The term “spent nuclear fuel” means fuel that has been withdrawn from a nuclear

² See References in Text note below.

reactor following irradiation, the constituent elements of which have not been separated by reprocessing.

(24) The term “State” means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and any other territory or possession of the United States.

(25) The term “storage” means retention of high-level radioactive waste, spent nuclear fuel, or transuranic waste with the intent to recover such waste or fuel for subsequent use, processing, or disposal.

(26) The term “Storage Fund” means the Interim Storage Fund established in section 10156(c)² of this title.

(27) The term “test and evaluation facility” means an at-depth, prototypic, underground cavity with subsurface lateral excavations extending from a central shaft that is used for research and development purposes, including the development of data and experience for the safe handling and disposal of solidified high-level radioactive waste, transuranic waste, or spent nuclear fuel.

(28) The term “unit of general local government” means any borough, city, county, parish, town, township, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a State.

(29) The term “Waste Fund” means the Nuclear Waste Fund established in section 10222(c) of this title.

(30) The term “Yucca Mountain site” means the candidate site in the State of Nevada recommended by the Secretary to the President under section 10132(b)(1)(B) of this title on May 27, 1986.

(31) The term “affected unit of local government” means the unit of local government with jurisdiction over the site of a repository or a monitored retrievable storage facility. Such term may, at the discretion of the Secretary, include units of local government that are contiguous with such unit.

(32) The term “Negotiator” means the Nuclear Waste Negotiator.

(33) As used in subchapter IV, the term “Office” means the Office of the Nuclear Waste Negotiator established under subchapter IV of this chapter.

(34) The term “monitored retrievable storage facility” means the storage facility described in section 10161(b)(1) of this title.

(Pub. L. 97-425, § 2, Jan. 7, 1983, 96 Stat. 2202; Pub. L. 100-202, § 101(d) [title III, § 300], Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1329-104, 1329-121; Pub. L. 100-203, title V, § 5002, Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1330-227.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 10224 of this title, referred to in par. (17), was in the original a reference to section 305 of Pub. L. 97-425, which is classified to section 10225 of this title, and was translated as section 10224 of this title as the probable intent of Congress, in view of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management being established by section 10224 of this title.

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, referred to in par. (19)(B), is Pub. L. 92-203, Dec. 18, 1971, 85 Stat. 688, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 33 (§1601 et seq.) of Title 43, Public Lands. For com-

plete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1601 of Title 43 and Tables.

Section 10156(c) of this title, referred to in par. (26), was in the original a reference to section 137(c) of Pub. L. 97-425, which is classified to section 10157(c) of this title, and has been translated as section 10156(c) of this title as the probable intent of Congress, in view of the Interim Storage Fund being established by section 10156(c) of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1987—Pars. (30) to (34). Pub. L. 100-202 and Pub. L. 100-203 amended section identically adding pars. (30) to (34).

SHORT TITLE OF 1987 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 100-202, §101(d) [title III], Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1329-104, 1329-121, and Pub. L. 100-203, title V, § 5001, Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1330-227, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle A (§§ 5001-5065) of title V, enacting sections 10162, 10163, 10164, 10165, 10166, 10167, 10168, 10169, 10172, 10172a, 10173, 10173a, 10173b, 10173c, 10174, 10174a, 10175, 10204, 10241, 10242, 10243, 10244, 10245, 10246, 10247, 10248, 10249, 10250, 10251, 10261, 10262, 10263, 10264, 10265, 10266, 10267, 10268, 10269, and 10270 of this title, amending this section and sections 10132, 10133, 10134, 10136, 10137, and 10138 of this title and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 5841 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987.’”

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 97-425, § 1, Jan. 7, 1983, 96 Stat. 2201, provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982.’”

TERMINATION OF TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

For termination of Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, see note set out preceding section 1681 of Title 48, Territories and Insular Possessions.

NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN; REPORT

Pub. L. 102-486, title VIII, § 803, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2923, provided that:

“(a) PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF REPORT.—The Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency, shall prepare and submit to the Congress a report on whether current programs and plans for management of nuclear waste as mandated by the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.) are adequate for management of any additional volumes or categories of nuclear waste that might be generated by any new nuclear power plants that might be constructed and licensed after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 24, 1992]. The Secretary shall prepare the report for submission to the President and the Congress within 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act. The report shall examine any new relevant issues related to management of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste that might be raised by the addition of new nuclear-generated electric capacity, including anticipated increased volumes of spent nuclear fuel or high-level radioactive waste, any need for additional interim storage capacity prior to final disposal, transportation of additional volumes of waste, and any need for additional repositories for deep geologic disposal.

“(b) OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.—In preparation of the report required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy shall offer members of the public an opportunity to provide information and comment and shall solicit the views of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, and other interested parties.

“(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.”

§ 10102. Separability

If any provision of this chapter, or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of this chapter, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

(Pub. L. 97-425, §3, Jan. 7, 1983, 96 Stat. 2205.)

§ 10103. Territories and possessions

Nothing in this chapter shall be deemed to repeal, modify, or amend the provisions of section 1491 of title 48.

(Pub. L. 97-425, §4, Jan. 7, 1983, 96 Stat. 2205.)

§ 10104. Ocean disposal

Nothing in this chapter shall be deemed to affect the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.).

(Pub. L. 97-425, §5, Jan. 7, 1983, 96 Stat. 2205.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 92-532, Oct. 23, 1972, 86 Stat. 1052, as amended, which enacted chapters 32 (§1431 et seq.) and 32A (§1447 et seq.) of Title 16, Conservation, and chapters 27 (§1401 et seq.) and 41 (§2801 et seq.) of Title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1401 of Title 33 and Tables.

§ 10105. Limitation on spending authority

The authority under this chapter to incur indebtedness, or enter into contracts, obligating amounts to be expended by the Federal Government shall be effective for any fiscal year only to such extent or in such amounts as are provided in advance by appropriation Acts.

(Pub. L. 97-425, §6, Jan. 7, 1983, 96 Stat. 2205.)

§ 10106. Protection of classified national security information

Nothing in this chapter shall require the release or disclosure to any person or to the Commission of any classified national security information.

(Pub. L. 97-425, §7, Jan. 7, 1983, 96 Stat. 2205.)

§ 10107. Applicability to atomic energy defense activities**(a) Atomic energy defense activities**

Subject to the provisions of subsection (c), the provisions of this chapter shall not apply with respect to any atomic energy defense activity or to any facility used in connection with any such activity.

(b) Evaluation by President

(1) Not later than 2 years after January 7, 1983, the President shall evaluate the use of disposal capacity at one or more repositories to be developed under part A of subchapter I for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste resulting from atomic energy defense activities. Such evaluation shall take into consideration factors relating to cost efficiency, health and safety,

regulation, transportation, public acceptability, and national security.

(2) Unless the President finds, after conducting the evaluation required in paragraph (1), that the development of a repository for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste resulting from atomic energy defense activities only is required, taking into account all of the factors described in such subsection, the Secretary shall proceed promptly with arrangement for the use of one or more of the repositories to be developed under part A of subchapter I for the disposal of such waste. Such arrangements shall include the allocation of costs of developing, constructing, and operating this repository or repositories. The costs resulting from permanent disposal of high-level radioactive waste from atomic energy defense activities shall be paid by the Federal Government, into the special account established under section 10222 of this title.

(3) Any repository for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste resulting from atomic energy defense activities only shall (A) be subject to licensing under section 5842 of this title; and (B) comply with all requirements of the Commission for the siting, development, construction, and operation of a repository.

(c) Applicability to certain repositories

The provisions of this chapter shall apply with respect to any repository not used exclusively for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste or spent nuclear fuel resulting from atomic energy defense activities, research and development activities of the Secretary, or both.

(Pub. L. 97-425, §8, Jan. 7, 1983, 96 Stat. 2205.)

§ 10108. Applicability to transportation

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to affect Federal, State, or local laws pertaining to the transportation of spent nuclear fuel or high-level radioactive waste.

(Pub. L. 97-425, §9, Jan. 7, 1983, 96 Stat. 2206.)

SUBCHAPTER I—DISPOSAL AND STORAGE OF HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE, SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL, AND LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE

§ 10121. State and affected Indian tribe participation in development of proposed repositories for defense waste**(a) Notification to States and affected Indian tribes**

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10107 of this title, upon any decision by the Secretary or the President to develop a repository for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste or spent nuclear fuel resulting exclusively from atomic energy defense activities, research and development activities of the Secretary, or both, and before proceeding with any site-specific investigations with respect to such repository, the Secretary shall notify the Governor and legislature of the State in which such repository is proposed to be located, or the governing body of the affected Indian tribe on whose reservation such repository is proposed to be located, as the case may be, of such decision.